

A Service of Morning Prayer September 13, 2026



This depiction of the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant on a stained glass window in Scots' Church, Melbourne shows the initial forgiving of the debt, and the final punishment of the unforgiving servant. Matthew 18:23 ff

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you. John 13:34

CP 375 At the Name of Jesus

1 At the Name of Jesus every knee shall
bow, every tongue confess him King of glory
now;
'tis the Father's pleasure we should call him
Lord, who from the beginning was the mighty
Word.

2 Humbled for a season to receive a name
from the lips of sinners unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it spotless to the last, brought it
back victorious when from death he passed;

3 Name him, Christians, name him, with
love strong as death,
but with awe and wonder, and with bated
breath; he is God the Saviour, he is Christ
the Lord, ever to be worshipped, trusted,
and adored.

4 In your hearts enthrone him; there let
him subdue
all that is not holy, all that is not true; crown him
as your Saviour in temptation's hour; let his will
enfold you in its light and power.

5 Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return
again, with his Father's glory, with his angel
train; for all wreaths of empire meet upon his
brow, and our hearts confess him King of Glory
now.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Be
with you all.

And also with you.

May his grace and peace be with you.

May he fill our hearts with joy.

Almighty God,

**To you all hearts are open,
All desires known,
And from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
That we may perfectly love you, And
worthily magnify your holy name;
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Psalm 114

Refrain: The words of the Lord are spirit and life.

114:1 When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,
114:2 Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel his dominion.

114:3 The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back.

114:4 The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs.

114:5 Why is it, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back?

114:6 O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs?

114:7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the God of Jacob, 114:8
who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water.

A Reading from Exodus 14:19-31

14:19 The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them,
and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them.

14:20 It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with
the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

14:21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a
strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. 14:22

The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

14:23 The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers.

14:24 At the morning watch the LORD, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into a panic.

14:25 He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

14:26 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers."

14:27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea.

14:28 The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained.

14:29 But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

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14:30 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.

14:31 Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 466 How Clear is Our Vocation Lord

1 How clear is our vocation,
Lord, when once we heed your
call: to live according to your
word, and daily learn, refreshed,
restored, that you are Lord of all,
and will not let us fall.

2 But if, forgetful, we should
find your yoke is hard to bear; if
worldly pressures fray the mind,
and love itself cannot unwind its
tangled skein of care, our inward
life repair.

3 We mark your saints, how they
became
in hindrances more sure, whose
joyful virtues put to shame the
casual way we wear your name,
and by our faults obscure your
power to cleanse and cure.

4 In what you give us, Lord, to do,
together or alone, in old routines or
ventures new, may we not cease to
look to you. The cross you hung
upon, all you endeavored done.

A Reading from Romans 14:1-12

14:1 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.

14:2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.

14:3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them.

14:4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

14:5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.

14:6 Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

14:7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.

14:8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

14:9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

14:10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

14:11 For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

14:12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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CP 614 Forgive our Sins as We Forgive

1 Forgive our sins as we forgive, You
taught us, Lord, to pray;

But you alone can grant us grace To
live the words we say.

2 How can your pardon reach and bless
The unforgiving heart

That broods on wrongs, and will not let Old
bitterness depart?

3 In blazing light your cross reveals The
truth we dimly knew: What trivial debts
are owed to us, How great our debt to
you!

4 Lord, cleanse the depths within our
souls

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

And bid resentment cease; Then,
bound to all in bonds of love, Our
lives will spread your peace.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew **Glory
to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Matthew 18:21-35

18:21 Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"

18:22 Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

18:23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

18:24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him,

18:25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

18:26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'

18:27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 18:28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.'

18:29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'

18:30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 18:31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

18:32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

18:33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'

18:34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.

18:35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of Christ
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

CCLI 5469291 By Faith

1 By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight

2 By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign

Chorus

***We will stand as children of the promise We
will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight***

3 By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and
death
And rise triumphant from the grave

4 By faith the church was called to go
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In ev'ry corner of the earth

5 By faith the mountain shall be moved
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator
of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was
buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven.

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the
holy catholic Church, the
communion of saints, the**

**forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and
the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People compiled by Betty Johnson

For our intercessions today we will use Litany # 6 which may be found on page 115 of the BAS (the green book).

(As we gather in God's presence, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy.")

For the whole People of God throughout the world,

In the worldwide cycle of prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia

In Canada, we pray for the Diocese of Edmonton: the Rt. Rev. Stephen London, Bishop.

In our Diocese, we pray for the lay leadership in Lay Led Parishes throughout the diocese and Lay Led Parishes Coordinator, Robyn King.

In the Diocese of Buye we pray for the Gakana Parish: Peniel Bihoyubusa, Rector

We pray for the people and community of the Louis Bull Tribe

We pray for St. Peter's and our faithful ministry team of Arthur, Sandra, Alison, Emily and Jorge; our wonderful musician, Nadine, our vestry, treasurer, readers and intercessors, and all who give of their time and talents and treasures to serve you. May our fellowship with one another as we gather in your name, on Sundays, be an occasion in which we are encouraged and equipped to make a difference in our world.

We pray that each one may be a true and faithful servant of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

For those drawing near to the light of faith, that the Lord will bring them to true knowledge of himself, let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

For our families and friends, our St. Peter's family that the Lord will give them joy and satisfaction in all that they do, let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

For the repose of the souls of those who have died and for those who mourn and for those who are lonely, sick, hungry, persecuted, or ignored and we pray especially for those for whom our prayers are requested,

Merle..... Mary..... Irene Tony and Mary Jean..... Florence..... Lisa
 and Joe..... Marijke..... Diane..... Janelle..... Sandy..... Evelyn.....
 Sarah..... Terry..... Ken..... Monica..... Julie..... Lucas..... Helen.....
 Cody..... Judy..... Ruth..... Jody and Michael..... David L..... Kathy.....
 Joy..... Pauline.....Jorges and Janine and little Emilio Michael S.....
 Larry..... Christena..... Elsie..... Louise B.....Irvin and Margaret.....
 Ashley..... Emily..... Zaldy..... Louise A..... Sandra A..... Justine.....
 Deardre..... June..... Fran..... those we hold close in our hearts and
 those known to you alone.

That the Lord will comfort and sustain them, let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

We pray for his Majesty, King Charles, for our Prime Minister, our Premier,
 and our Mayor, and for our whole country, that the Lord will help us to
 contribute to its true growth and well-being, let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

For the whole human family, that we may live together in justice and peace,
 let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own
 peace I leave with you:" give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly
 City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and
 for ever. **Amen.**

Collect

Almighty God, you call your Church to
 witness that in Christ we are
 reconciled to you.

Help us so to proclaim the good news of your
 love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through
 Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with
 you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for
 ever.

**And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
 Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be
 thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be
 done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this
 day our daily bread. And forgive us our
 trespasses, as we forgive those who**

trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

CP 215 Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

1 Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness; God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness: loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters; led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

2 'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ hath burst his prison, and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen. All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

3 Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendour, with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render; comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

The Dismissal

4 Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal, nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal; but today amidst the twelve thou didst stand, bestowing that thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing.

5 Alleluia now we cry to our King immortal, who triumphant burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal; alleluia, with the Son God the Father praising; alleluia, yet again to the Spirit raising.

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you. John 13:34

**Let us bless the Lord Thanks
be to God.**

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness working in us what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

My dear friends, be swift to love, make haste to be kind,
and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.